

Learning Assistance Program

Background Materials
K-12 Advisory Committee
October 19, 2005

Learning Assistance Program -- Laws

- Chapter 28A.165 RCW
 - Provides assistance for underachieving students in grades kindergarten through 11
 - Available for grade 12 in the 2007-08 school year
 - Part of the state's program of basic education
- In 2005, the Legislature directed increases in funding to be used in high school. Districts are encouraged to offer remediation courses in the summer for students who fail the tenth grade WASL.

Learning Assistance – Program Activities

- Program activities may include
 - Extended learning time opportunities occurring:
 - Before or after the regular school day
 - On Saturday
 - Beyond the regular school year
 - Professional development for certificated and classified staff focusing on
 - The needs of a diverse student population
 - Specific literacy and mathematics content and instructional strategies
 - The use of student work to guide effective instruction
 - Consultant teachers to assist in implementing effective instructional practices
 - Tutoring
 - Outreach activities and support for parents of participating students

LAP Formula Prior to 2005-06

Prior formula based primarily on test scores (norm-referenced assessments, not WASL); 9% distributed based on poverty (Free or Reduced-Price Lunch - FRPL).

Prior Formula

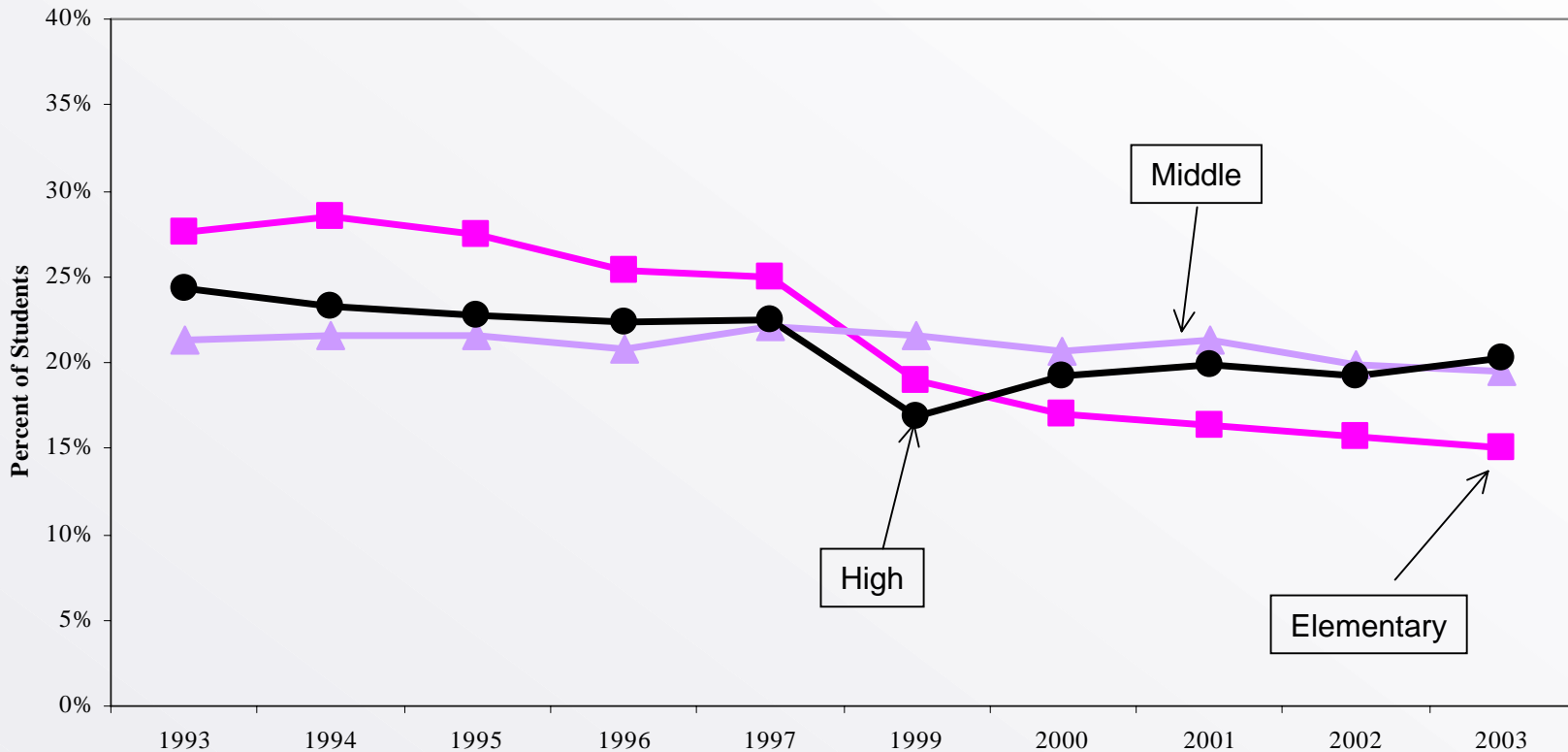
Step 1

1. K-6 FTEs x % 3rd graders in bottom quartile of norm-referenced assessment
 2. 7-9 FTEs x % 6th graders in bottom quartile
 3. 10-11 FTEs x % 9th graders in bottom quartile
- = Number of LAP Units

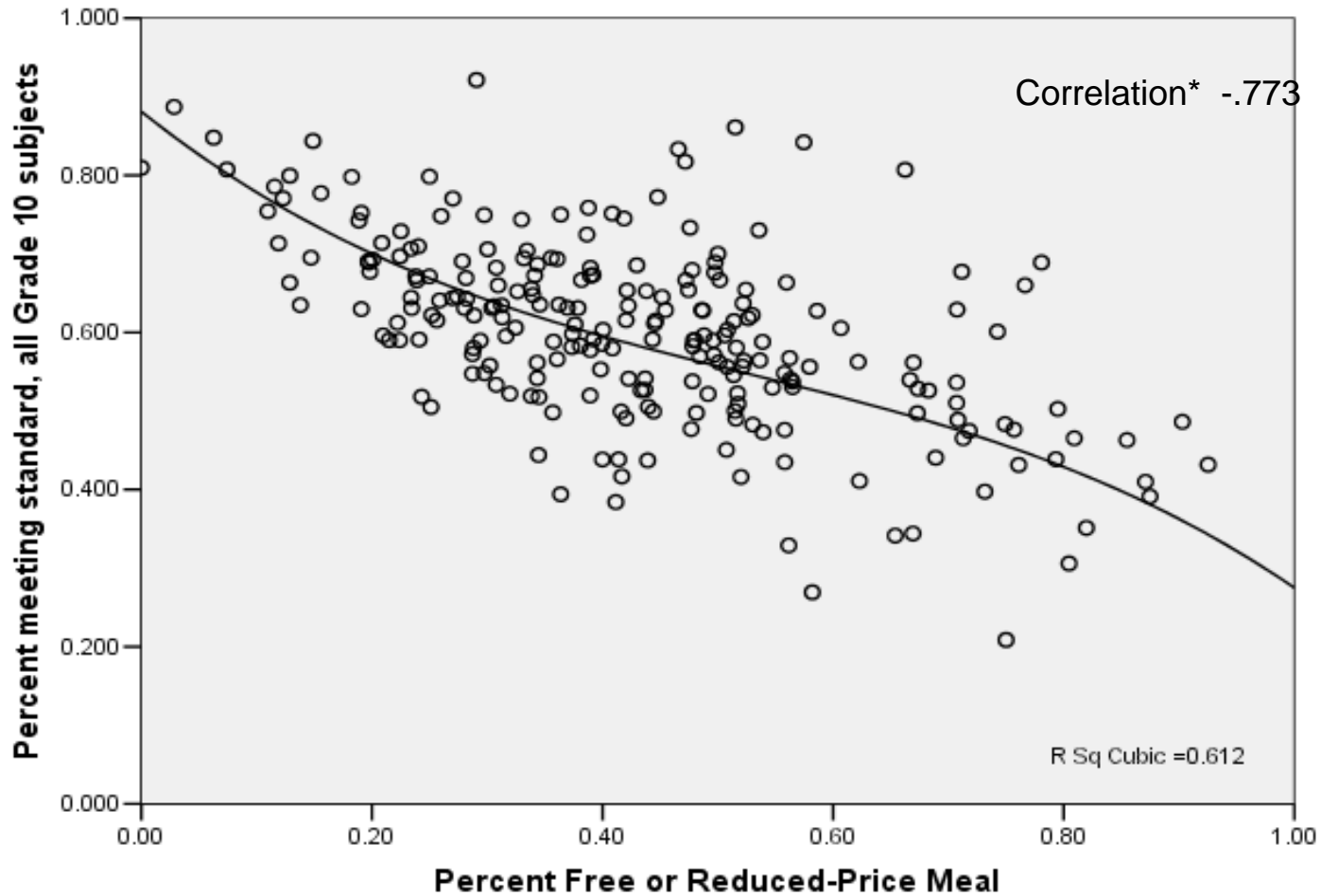
Step 2

1. LAP Units x \$432.92 x 82%
 2. Plus, K-12 FTE Above Average Poverty x \$432.92 x 22%
- = Total LAP Allocation

Percent of Elementary Students Testing in the Bottom Quartile has Dropped Significantly



In 2005, the percent of students meeting standard in all three content areas is very highly correlated to poverty. Over 60% of the variation in achievement among students is accounted for by family socio-economic level.



*Correlation is weighted by the number of students assessed and is statistically significant to the .01 level.

2005 Legislative Actions

- Established new funding formula based solely on poverty as measured by the percentage of a district's students receiving Free or Reduced-Price Lunch (FRPL)

New Poverty-based Formula

1. Prior yr % K-12 FRPL * prior year K-12 enrollment

Plus

2. Prior yr % K-12 FRPL - 40% * prior year K-12 enrollment

Multiplied by

3. Annual per student allocation (2005-06 = \$187.47)

➤ Example: $((42\% * 28,368) + ((42\% - 40\%) * 28,368)) * \$187.47 = \$2,339,985$

Under the New Funding Formula

- 189 districts gain funds
 - Legislature requires use of new funds for secondary students; encouraged to offer remediation courses in the summer for students who do not meet standard on the WASL
- 107 districts held harmless at prior funding level or gain very little under the new formula
 - \$1.6 million in Hold Harmless funding provided for 2005-06 SY

Prior to formula change, 9% of LAP Funds are Allocated Based on Poverty Factor; Beginning 2005-06 All Funds Based on Poverty Factor

Learning Assistance Program Allocations

